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Identical letters dated 1 December 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

For some six years, armed terrorist groups have been committing crimes against humanity, targeting defenceless civilians in various Syrian cities. The groups, including Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the Nusrah Front, the Army of Conquest, Ahrar al-Sham, the Nur al-Din al-Zanki movement and the Army of Islam, have foreign backing. Their terrorist crimes could not have continued without the overt or covert support of Members of the Security Council, or without the generous supplies of funds, weapons and ammunition, not to mention political and media cover, that are provided by certain States such as Turkey and Saudi Arabia, that are well known to everyone.

The armed terrorist groups have systematically targeted public property, facilities, infrastructure and economic institutions, particularly teaching institutions. In that connection, I should like to transmit a detailed report of damage sustained by the Ministry of Education of the Syrian Arab Republic up until 30 October 2016. Several schools, education complexes and administrative buildings were partially or wholly destroyed. The report also sets out the cost of repairing the damage, and the numbers of teachers and pupils killed in all Syrian governorates.

The international community's failure to condemn these crimes has encouraged the armed terrorist groups to continue killing innocent people and destroying cultural assets in Syria.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic reiterates that it will continue to fight and suppress terrorism. It is determined comprehensively to fulfil its constitutional and legal duties by protecting its people, its land and its sovereignty. It calls on the Security Council and the Secretary-General to condemn these acts of terrorism and assume their responsibility by combating and eradicating terrorism, tackling its roots and sources of funding, and prosecuting its sponsors, in accordance with Security Council resolutions on counter-terrorism, particularly resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015). The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic will take legal action against those States that support armed terrorist groups, and will hold them responsible for their actions sooner or later.

Please recycle

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Damage to the education sector

The total damage done to the education sector now stands at more than 305,247,494,000 Syrian pounds, as follows:

1. Direct damage

- A total of 444 schools have been damaged. The cost of rebuilding them is estimated at some 66,600,000,000 Syrian pounds.
- A total of 811 schools have been partially damaged. The cost of repairing them is estimated at some 12,165,000,000 Syrian pounds.
- A total of 9,433 schools are in need of repairs, at an estimated cost of 141,495,000,000 Syrian pounds.
- A total of 216 education complexes and administrative buildings have been damaged. The cost of repairing them has been estimated at 4,330,330,000 Syrian pounds.
- A total of 48,577,164,000 Syrian pounds' worth of equipment, machinery and materials used in the education process has been stolen or vandalized.

2. Indirect damage

Pupils at all levels have lost an opportunity for an education, and the lost classes will have to be taught again at an estimated cost of 32,080,600,000 Syrian pounds.

3. Human damage

A total of 457 teachers and administrators and 630 male and female pupils have been killed, for a total of 1,087 dead. The figures by governorate are given below.

Governorate	*Pupils killed*	*Teachers and administrators killed*
Damascus	33	24
Rif Dimashq	226	72
Dar'a	80	77
Qunaytirah	15	21
Suwayda'	0	9
Homs	100	25
Hama	46	25
Aleppo	35	17
Idlib	21	48

Governorate	*Pupils killed*	*Teachers and administrators killed*
Tartus	6	44
Ladhiqiyah	21	14
Hasakah	8	11
Dayr al-Zawr	24	28
Raqqah	15	16
Central administration	0	26
Total	**630**	**457**
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